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SUBJ/PUBLIC AFFAIRS-NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (NSMN) (94-23)//  
POC/CAPT P.C. BISHOP/-/MED-00P (PUBLIC AFFAIRS)/-/TEL:(202)653-  
1315/TEL:DSN 294-1315//  
RMKS/1. THIS SERVICE IS FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF  
INFORMATION AND NEWS OF INTEREST TO NAVY AND MARINE CORPS  
MEMBERS, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, FAMILY MEMBERS AND RETIRED  
BENEFICIARIES OF NAVY MEDICINE. MAXIMUM AND TIMELY  
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WITH THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS (CMC). THE COMMANDANT  
HAS AUTHORIZED TRANSMISSION TO MARINE CORPS ACTIVITIES.

2. HEADLINES AND GENERAL INTEREST STORIES THIS WEEK:  
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HEADLINE: Fleet Hospital 5 Personnel Prepare for Zagreb  
FH5 Portsmouth, VA (NSMN) -- Fleet Hospital 5, a Navy mobile hospital unit based at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA, will leave on or about 22 August for a six-month deployment to Zagreb, Croatia, to provide medical support for the ongoing U.N. peacekeeping mission.

The unit, comprised of about 200 medical and support personnel, will relieve Fleet Hospital 6, based in San Diego. Sixty-seven personnel from NMC Portsmouth will deploy with the unit in August. Medical personnel from other Navy Medical commands in the Eastern United States, a SeaBee contingent, and a Marine security detachment will complete the unit.

Fleet Hospital 5 will operate a 60-bed, Level III hospital at Camp Pleso, the United Nations Protection Force's support center for the Balkan region. Level III hospitals provide intensive care and specialty care as well as basic primary care services.

Fleet Hospital 5 will not be required to transport and set up the physical facility, but will take certain replacement equipment and supplies. The U.N. hospital at Camp Pleso is a U.S. Army field hospital that has been in place for two years. Operation of the hospital has rotated among the three U.S. services.

CAPT Gregg Parker, MC, currently the medical director of NMC Portsmouth, will serve as commanding officer during the deployment.

Story by LTjg Merritt Hamilton, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth  
-USN-

HEADLINE: GW Celebrates 96 Years of Hospital Corpsmen

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (NSMN) -- Created by a 17 June 1898 Act of Congress, the Hospital Corps has dedicated their careers to taking care of sick and injured Sailors and Marines for 96 years.

"Everywhere in the Navy, there has to be a corpsman," said HM1(SW) Glenn Balestino, an Independent Duty Corpsman aboard USS George Washington (CVN 73), commanded by CAPT Robert G. Sprigg. "And here, the knowledge that is gathered through the technical expertise aboard is better than anywhere else."

GW's Medical Department and Carrier Airwing Seven's corpsmen and flight surgeons have proven they are no exception to the corps' high standards.

With a 1993 Blue "M" Battle Efficiency Award already under their belt, they continue to operate what is essentially a floating metropolitan hospital and public health center. They do everything from water inspections to flight physicals, from sickcall to emergency medical response.

Since commissioning, requirements for the care of Sailors aboard the carrier have increased right along with its operational tempo. In 1993, there were 10,822 sickcall visits. Through June of this year, GW and CVW-7 Sailors have already made 6,664 visits to sickbay.

"There's not much difference between the type of work you do on a big or small ship ... the difference lies in that on a carrier the work comes at you a lot bigger and a lot faster," said HMCM(SW) Gary McCloud, Medical's Leading Chief Petty Officer.

Although one might expect a heavier workload would reduce service quality, the exact opposite holds true for GW's medical team. There has been a parallel improvement in the quality of service for both the crew and battle group Sailors. This improvement is not only visible from a patient's perspective, but also from Sailors inside the corps' community. "In my day, unless your goal was to be a chief corpsman, their wasn't another (career) path you could take," said senior medical officer CDR John Mills, MC, who served as an enlisted corpsman in 1959.

"Today, there are more paths to choose from. Corpsmen can become Physician Assistants or Independent Duty Corpsmen," Mills explained. "Back then, there also wasn't the surface or air warfare pins."

Navy corpsmen are adept at working in both shipboard and shore environments. They also serve in the Fleet Marine Force, and, during wars, have operated in forward positions during ground warfare. One testament to their performance in the field is that the hospital corps has produced more Medal of Honor recipients than any other rating in the Navy.

Aboard Navy ships, corpsmen are exposed to more varied jobs

and given more responsibility than in any other medical environment. And, because of this, it's become routine to cross-train corpsmen throughout workstations within a carrier's Medical Department. "Here, we can take corpsmen who don't normally shoot X-rays and teach them to do it by doing it," said HM2 Scott Pittman, a Preventive Medicine Technician. "That would be impossible on shore."

This goal to cross train helps in overall rating knowledge and also prepares corpsmen for standing departmental medical watches -- positions that demand a wide variety of skills to handle emergencies should they arise; skills that make today's corpsmen better qualified than ever before.

Story by JO2 Thomas Gelsanliter

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**HEADLINE:** Shipboard Medical is Not Your Average Doctor's Office  
COMDESRON 14 (NSMN) -- Amid the weight scale, microscope and centrifuge lie two USS Hayler ballcaps. Instead of the usual insipid Muzak wafting through the sterilized office, the Police's "Greatest Hits" helps to calm the nerves of the U.S. Navy's sick and ailing. This isn't your parent's doctor's office.

The Battle Dressing Station, or Medical Department, on board the Spruance-class destroyer USS Hayler (DD 997) is run by two young hospital corpsmen -- Petty Officer 1st Class Brian K. Carnes and Hospitalman Jonathan D. Harris. Don't let the atmosphere fool you -- both men are well-trained professionals solely responsible for the health and physical welfare of the more than 350 crew members aboard Hayler's slightly rolling decks.

Neither Carnes nor Harris joined the Navy with their minds set on entering the medical field. According to Carnes, "I just wanted to do something challenging and I wanted to help people. The Navy recruiters told me that they had something I might be interested in, and it turns out I was."

Harris' introduction to medicine was even less auspicious. "I was told I was gonna do it," he said. "I came into the Navy to be an AW (aviation anti-submarine warfare operator), but I was color blind" and therefore disqualified. When asked today how he enjoys being a corpsman, Harris responded, "I love it."

A typical day in Hayler's floating Medical Department begins at 0730, when Carnes and Harris go over their plans for the day. At 0800, sickcall begins. Under the watchful eye of Carnes, Harris gets hands-on training as he treats the handful of crew members who come to sickcall in a day. About 50 percent of the visits are orthopedic -- knee pain, toe pain, muscular-skeletal problems -- with the other 50 percent being headaches, sore throats, follow-ups and so on. As sickcall proceeds, you can hear the Police singing "King of Pain" or "Every Breath you Take" above the ship's industrial-like background noise.

Sickcall occurs twice each day: one hour in the morning and one hour after lunch. In actuality, many of the sickcalls extend quite a bit beyond their scheduled time. After daily sickcalls, Harris and Carnes spend a lot of their time dealing with unscheduled "walk in" visits and the vast amount of

administrative work that comes from maintaining around 700 health records (medical and dental). "The computer is probably the most important piece of equipment we have here," said Carnes. It tracks all the administrative work -- from a tickler system for shots to the amount of medical supplies currently on the ship. With the computer's help, Hayler's corpsmen are able to ensure that the entire crew is up to date on their immunizations, physicals, appointments and consultations.

When questioned on how it felt to be responsible for the health of the entire ship's crew, Carnes responded, "When I first started, I couldn't sleep. I didn't have an appetite. I lost about 25 pounds and started getting gray hair. It was overwhelming, absolutely overwhelming, because there is just so much that can go wrong ... but you get used to it. My training has provided me with the skills I need to take care of the ship's company without the supervision of a medical officer."

Indeed, it has. Carnes came into the Navy at the age of 17. He went to Hospital Corpsman School in Great Lakes, IL, directly after graduating from boot camp. "That's where they take somebody who has never had anything to do with medicine before, and they give you some skills so that you can deal with the patients."

After Great Lakes, he worked at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA, for a year before returning to school for six months of intensive pharmacy schooling. Eight years later, Carnes decided that he didn't just want to specialize in pharmacy any more. "I wanted to do everything," said Carnes. So, he went to Independent Duty Corpsman School and underwent "the most specialized training that you can get as a hospital corpsman."

IDC School rounded out Carnes' training and prepared him for the huge responsibility of being the senior Medical Department representative aboard USS Hayler. Aboard the ship, he has the dual roles of both doctor and nurse. "RNs and LPNs follow the orders of a doctor. I make the orders. I am the one who makes the decisions. And, then, I carry them out," said Carnes.

Harris has been in the Navy for three and a-half years. "Before I came into the Navy. I wasn't anything," said Harris. "I didn't know anything about the medical field whatsoever."

Harris actually requested the duty assignment aboard USS Hayler, because he wanted the extra responsibility and experience that came with it. "On an aircraft carrier, they have about 20 or 30 corpsmen aboard. If you're an E-3, like me, you'd be doing swab jobs on the P-way (mopping the passage way) all day. Here, I still do the P-way, but I also do more of what I was trained to do."

The Carnes and Harris Mentor and Apprentice Team serves the needs of USS Hayler in a calm, friendly and professional manner. Recently, at a morning sickcall, they were diagnosing a patient who complained of dizziness. As the two corpsmen put him through a couple of tests to check his equilibrium, the ship gently rolled from left to right in the swells of the North Atlantic. The selection playing from the Police's "Greatest Hits" CD -- "Walking on the Moon."

Story by JO3 Rick Schilder, Commander Destroyer Squadron FOURTEEN

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**HEADLINE: Special Pays Management Needs Special Attention**

BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- Commanding officers and manpower personnel at medical and dental treatment facilities need to pay special attention to the rules regarding special pays.

The following four points are common problems experienced in administering the Special Pays Program:

-- Additional Special Pay (ASP) and Incentive Special Pay (ISP) agreements must not, repeat not, be approved for those officers with less than one year of active duty remaining. These officers must first obtain written BUPERS-4415 approval to extend before agreements may be approved.

-- ASP and ISP agreements cannot be arbitrarily renegotiated for the purpose of changing dates. ASP and ISP may be renegotiated to realign dates due to mandatory retirement or to accept a larger ISP amount when not, repeat not, under a Multiyear Special Pay (MSP) agreement.

-- If an officer is under an MSP agreement, ISP amounts must be at the specialty rate in effect for the fiscal year in which the MSP began. Officers may not take a higher ISP without first renegotiating an MSP agreement for an equal to or greater period of time.

-- Copies of each ASP and ISP agreement must be forwarded to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, MED 52. Continued failure to provide copies of these not only complicates budget preparation and data base management, but may also result in moving approval authority to a higher level.

MED 525 has a listing of officers under various contracts, which is available to MTF/DTF manpower personnel by calling (202) 653-1080 or DSN 294-1080.

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**HEADLINE: Grand Round Abstracts**

UNPROFOR Zagreb, Croatia (NSMN) -- The Fleet Hospital 6 staff who have been running the 60-bed U.N. hospital here are coming to the end of their tour and personnel assigned to Fleet Hospital 5 are preparing to take over the task of providing health care for the United Nations Protection Force.

As it turns out, the Fleet Hospital 5 director for Nursing Services will be continuing a trend begun by the FH6 DNS -- they both have Croatian roots. The current DNS, CDR Nancy Owen, NC, found she had a cousin near Zagreb and had the opportunity to meet with her during her tour. Owen's grandmother had immigrated to the United States. The DNS for FH5, CDR Alana M. Benton, NC, stationed at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA, has a closer tie to Croatia -- she will be returning to the land her father left.

Both Benton's parents have family in Croatia, whom she hopes to have the opportunity to meet during her tour in Zagreb. When Owen met her cousin, they had to rely on sign language and facial expressions to communicate. Benton may be able to swap stories with her relatives, depending on how much Croatian she remembers -- both her grandmother and parents spoke it at home. She'll

find out this fall, as she expects to be in Zagreb by September.

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NMC Portsmouth, VA (NSMN) -- During a 29 June graduation ceremony for Naval Medical Center Portsmouth's interns and residents, audio tapes were serving as the band. Ruffles and Flourishes sounded great. The Color Guard looked good. The National Anthem couldn't be found. After a brief delay, the Master of Ceremonies announced that they would proceed to the next item on the program.

No, not while the Center's commander, RADM William J. McDaniel, MC, was on the dias. Before the MC could finish his pronouncement, McDaniel interjected, "That's not right ... we all know the words," and proceeded to lead the nearly 500 people attending the ceremony in an a cappella rendition of The Star Spangled Banner. Those at the graduation said hearing the anthem sung was a most memorable and poignant addition to the ceremony.

The Navy Surgeon General, guest speaker for the graduation, not only enjoyed this innovative version of the National Anthem, but was proud of the dynamic leadership and patriotism within Navy medicine that made it happen.

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NMC San Diego (NSMN) -- John F. Alksne, dean at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, spoke at the 1994 intern graduation ceremony at the Naval Medical Center 29 June.

The annual graduation ceremony officially launched the Navy Medical careers of 83 interns (23 women and 60 men) who have trained in basic medicine, surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics or psychiatry.

The graduates will fan out to serve with the Fleet Marine Force, naval surface, aviation and undersea units, aboard ships and even as far south as Antarctica.

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AP - PERSIAN GULF (NSMN) -- For the fourth time in a month, U.S. Navy ships enforcing U.N. Security Council resolutions against Iraq have made a sea rescue. Navy spokesman LCDR Bruce Cole said yesterday that a USN helicopter flew 50 miles out to answer a distress call from the chemical carrier Najran after a crewman was struck in the head by a beam, suffering a severe concussion. Cole said, "Without the quick response and medical treatment, the man's injuries may have been life-ending." Navy doctor LT Nina Kazerooni, 26, and corpsman Eric Weslowski, 23, were aboard the helicopter.

Story from Associated Press Wire Copy, 21 June 1994

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CNO Washington (NSMN) -- VADM R.J. Zlatoper announced the 1994 Level II and Level III Drug and Alcohol Counselors of the Year award winners in NAVADMIN 101/94 (DTG 171315Z JUN 94). Congratulations to HM2 Christopher Justice on his selection as the Level III Counselor of the Year for service in the Alcohol

Rehabilitation Department of U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan.

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CNRC Washington (NSMN) -- Navy Recruiters of the Month for March 1994, published in the June issue of Navy Recruiter magazine, included LCDR Karen Markert, NC, as Officer Recruiter of the Month from NRD Chicago. Congratulations, and keep those people coming.

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3. Professional Notes: Information on upcoming symposiums, conferences or courses of interest to Navy Medical Department personnel and wrap-ups on ones attended. Anyone with information to share in this section should contact the editor (see the last paragraph of this message on ways to do so).

July Meetings:

-- 5 July 1994, 12-week Financial and Materiel Management Training Course begins. Contact CDR Dave Wynkoop, MSC, at (301) 295-0624, DSN 295-0624 for more information.

-- 9-16 July 1994, The Third National Kaiser Permanente Internal Medicine Conference, Ritz Carlton Hotel, Kapalua, Maui, HI. For information, contact Eric Tepper, MD, Internal Medicine, The Permanente Medical Group, 3400 Delta Fair Blvd., Antioch, CA 94509; (510) 779-5211.

-- 11-22 July 1994, Operational and Preventive Medicine Course, NEPMU-5, San Diego. Call (619) 556-7086, DSN 526-7086 for information.

-- 20-24 July 1994, 22nd National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) Conference, San Diego. Call 1-800-772-6662 for information; Navy POC is CDR Ronald Keys at (703) 697-8554, DSN 227-8554.

-- 25-29 July 1994, Eighth Annual Sports Medicine Conference, San Diego. For information, contact the University of California, Office of Continuing Medical Education, (619) 534-3940.

-- 25-28 July 1994, Senior Enlisted Conference, Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA, (202) 653-1148.

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HEADLINE: Senior Enlisted Conference/Change of Office  
BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- The Senior Enlisted Conference is 25-28 July, and HMCM(SS) Charles R. Williams' retirement and change of office is 29 July. The conference will be held at The Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA (1-800-233-1234 or 703/418-1234). The conference fee is \$12 a day, which will be collected at check-in. Conference registration will be available beginning 0700 23 July.

The first day of the conference will consist of general session briefs from various key people in the Washington area. Attendees will break into working groups on the second and third days of the conference.

A pre-retirement dinner for Williams is planned for 28 July (\$35 per person). If you would like to speak or make a presentation during the dinner, please contact DTCS(SW) Kathryn

Morrison as soon as possible.

If you plan to attend the conference, provide Morrison with your name, rate, paygrade, command address, title and position, command phone numbers (DSN, commercial and fax), UIC, e-mail address, arrival and departure dates and whether or not you plan to attend the pre-retirement dinner. You can contact her for more information at DSN 294-1148, (202) 653-1148, fax extension -1280, or e-mail nmc0@kdmbumed40.med.navy.mil.

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**HEADLINE: An AMSUS Call for Membership**

AMSUS Bethesda, MD (NSMN) -- "This is a particularly important year for federal medicine," noted VADM D. F. Hagen, MC, 1994 AMSUS President, "because of the national discussions on health care reform. If there was ever a year to join AMSUS, this is it, because we have a real opportunity to have a direct impact on the future of health care in the United States and within the government.

"I would like to see each current AMSUS member bring at least one new member into the organization," said Hagen.

AMSUS Executive Director Lt Gen Max B. Bralliar, USAF (Ret.), MC, indicates more than 6,000 military and federal physicians, dentists, veterinarians, nurses, administrators and enlisted professionals (medics, corpsmen and dental technicians) are expected to attend the 101st Annual Meeting of AMSUS, which will take place 13-18 November in Orlando, FL.

"The theme of this year's Association of Military Surgeons of the United States' Annual Meeting is 'Unity Through Diversity,'" stated Program Chair RADM Roger Triftshauser, DC, USNR. "It's exciting to see so many people pull together. It's a good opportunity for new members to focus on the future."

Bralliar said, "We have plenty of opportunity for more federal health care providers to become members for this year's meeting. We have a variety of memberships available for medical students and working professionals."

Joining an AMSUS Chapter gives members direct access to numerous professional education programs each year, continuing education credit, and the opportunity to interact with a solid core of other federal health care professionals.

Former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop is the scheduled keynote speaker for this year's meeting. Koop will be joined by the chiefs of each of the military and federal services health care organizations.

Organized in 1891, AMSUS was chartered by Congress in 1903 and is composed of members of the military services, the Public Health Service and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Members are represented by AMSUS in the Council of Military Organizations and the Military Coalition. These organizations, with a combined membership of more than 3.5 million, support legislation on behalf of all active duty, retired, veteran and federal health professionals.

Federal health care professionals and students can obtain membership information from a local AMSUS Chapter representative or directly from the AMSUS headquarters at the following address:

Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, 9320 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814; telephone (301) 897-8800; fax (301) 530-5446.

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HEADLINE: Reminder on Nursing Research Call for Papers

BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- The deadline is 15 July 1994 for submitting abstracts for the Seventh Annual Karen A. Rieder Nursing Research Poster Session to be held 14-15 November 1994 in Orlando, FL, during the 101st Annual Meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS). Details ran in last week's message (NSMN 94-22, 240426Z JUN 94) and in BUMED message 200407Z APR 94.

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4. Two-month calendar of events:

JULY

Hemochromatosis Screening Awareness Month (518/489-0972)  
Safety Awareness Month  
4 July: Independence Day  
11 July: Reserve E-7 Board Convenes  
14 July 1789: Bastille (Paris, France) Stormed  
18 July: Material Professional Board Convenes  
19 July: VOTE! Georgia Primary  
19-25 July: Lead Poison Control Week (201/926-7575)  
20 July 1969: Neil Armstrong first man to walk on moon  
25 July 1944: Allies break out of Normandy beachhead  
27 July 1789: U.S. State Department established  
31 July: O-6, O-7 and O-8 FitReps (Active and Reserve) Due

AUGUST

National Head Lice Prevention Month (National Pediculosis Association, 1-800-446-4NPA or 617/449-NITS)

1 August 1907: U.S. Air Force Founded  
2 August: VOTE! Kansas, Michigan and Missouri Primaries  
3 August 1790: U.S. Coast Guard Founded  
4 August 1947: Navy Medical Service Corps Birthday  
4 August: VOTE! Tennessee Primary  
5 August 1864: Battle of Mobile Bay; Admiral Farragut's famous statement, "Damn the torpedoes. Four bells. ... full speed."

7 August 1789: U.S. War Department Created (forerunner of the Defense Department)

7 August 1782: George Washington founded "Order of Purple Heart"

9 August: VOTE! Colorado Primary  
11 August 1909: First SOS sent  
15 August: DC DUINS Board Convenes  
15 August: Active O-3 MC, DC, MSC, NC Boards Convene  
16 August: VOTE! Wyoming Primary  
18 August: National Medical Dosimetrist Day (309/343-1202)  
19 August 1916: Naval Reserve Force established  
22 August 1912: Navy Dental Corps Birthday  
23 August 1914: Japan Declares War on Germany  
23 August: VOTE! Alaska and Oklahoma Primaries

25 August 1944: U.S. troops free Paris

31 August: O-5 Fitness Reports Due

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5. ADDRESSEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OR BENEFICIARY INTEREST (IN STORY FORMAT) BY TELEPHONE, FAX OR E-MAIL TO BUMED, ATTN: EDITOR, NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (MED 00P2). TELEPHONE (202) 653-0793; DSN 294-0793. FAX (202) 653-0086; DSN 294-0086. E-MAIL NMC0ENL@BUMED10.MED.NAVY.MIL//

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